

## USER INTERFACE ENHANCEMENTS CM/ECF VERSION 3.1

There were several user interface enhancements, included in Release 3.1. The changes include:

- Cascading Menu System
- Case Number Look-ups
- Docket Event Searches

### 1. Cascading Menu System

The new cascading menu system allows users to navigate from one CM/ECF menu item to another by hovering over the main blue menu bar and selecting specific menu items from the cascading menus. Users can also access menu items in the same manner as before by clicking on the blue menu bar item.

The new cascading menu system applies to all users, including PACER users.

**Figure 1.1 Sample View of the Civil Events Cascading Menu**



### 2. Case Number Look-ups

Almost every screen with a case number look-up field has been modified to reduce the number of screens presented to the user when entering and selecting case numbers. Instead of entering a case number, such as 06-23, and being presented with several subsequent screens to select the full case number (for example, 5:06-cv-23), all possible case number matches will be displayed on the same screen as the initial look-up field. Users can select the proper case number and continue on with docketing, or select other criteria on the screen if running a report or utility. This new functionality results in as many as three fewer screens that the users will encounter while docketing or when running reports or utilities.

These changes apply to all users, including PACER users.

The following screen shots illustrate different instances of the same case number look-up screen in CM/ECF Query. Figure 2.1 shows the case number being entered, Figure 2.2 shows the resulting list of cases that appear on the screen after clicking the **Find This Case** button, and Figure 2.3 shows the status of the screen upon selecting two defendants in a criminal case. Notice that the **Next** button is grayed out until at least one case number is selected. Also, notice in Figure 2.3 that the other two main case checkboxes are not available to be checked because two defendants in the main criminal case were selected.

**Figure 2.1 Case Number Look-up Field After Entering a Case Number**

The screenshot shows the 'Query' screen with the following elements:

- Search Clues** section:
  - Case Number:** A text box containing '06-23' and a 'Find This Case' button.
  - or search by** section:
    - Case Status:** Radio buttons for 'Open', 'Closed', and 'All'.
    - Filed Date:** Two text boxes separated by 'to'.
    - Last Entry Date:** Two text boxes separated by 'to'.
    - Nature of Suit:** A dropdown menu with options: '0 (zero)', '110 (Insurance)', and '120 (Contract: Marine)'.
  - or search by** section:
    - Case Status:** Radio buttons for 'Open', 'Closed', and 'All'.
    - Last/Business Name:** A text box with '(Examples: Desoto, Des\*t)'.
    - First Name:** A text box.
    - Middle Name:** A text box.
    - Type:** A dropdown menu.
    - Prisoner ID:** A text box.
- Buttons at the bottom: 'Run Query' and 'Clear'.

**Figure 2.2 Case Number Look-up Field After Entering a Case Number and Clicking Find This Case (Top Half of Screen)**

The screenshot shows the 'Query' screen with the following elements:

- Search Clues** section:
  - Case Number:** A text box containing '06-23' and a 'Hide Case List' button.
  - Select a case:** A list of cases with checkboxes:
    - ☐ 1:06-mj-00023 USA v. Smith
    - ☐ 3:06-cr-00023-TJM USA v. Wiley et al ☐
    - ☐ 3:06-cr-00023-TJM-1 Noah Wiley
    - ☐ 3:06-cr-00023-TJM-2 Maura Tierney
    - ☐ 3:06-cr-00023-TJM-3 George Clooney
    - ☐ 5:06-cv-00023-FJS-GJD Smith v. Jones Trucking Company
  - or search by** section:
    - Case Status:** Radio buttons for 'Open', 'Closed', and 'All'.

**Figure 2.3 Case Number Look-up Field After Selecting at Least One Case**

**Query**

**Search Clues**

Case Number: 3:06-cr-23-1,3 Hide Case List

Select a case:

- ☐ 1:06-mj-00023 USA v. Smith
- ☐ 3:06-cr-00023-TJM USA v. Wiley et al [-]
  - ☒ 3:06-cr-00023-TJM-1 Noah Wiley
  - ☐ 3:06-cr-00023-TJM-2 Maura Tierney
  - ☒ 3:06-cr-00023-TJM-3 George Clooney
- ☐ 5:06-cv-00023-FJS-GJD Smith v. Jones Trucking Company

or search by

Case Status: ☐ Open ☐ Closed ☐ All

For multi-defendant criminal cases, clicking on the + beside the main case number expands the list of cases to display all of the defendants. Once the list of defendants is expanded, clicking on the - beside the main case number collapses the list of defendants so only the main case number is visible.

### **3. Universal Event and Menu Search**

The new **Event and Menu Search** utility, labeled **Search**, is available from the main blue menu bar. When clicked, a small pop-up window appears, and the user can enter text to search on. Once the user enters the text in the search box and clicks the **Search** button (or Enter on the keyboard), the results are displayed on the screen, with the search string characters highlighted. Each item is a hyperlink to the corresponding menu item or event, so the user can access the menu item or event right from the search results screen. Figure 3.1 shows the **Search** pop-up and the results for a search on “Default.”

**Figure 3.1 Search Events and Menu Pop-ups and Results for a Search on “Default”**

